

it supplies water to 260,708 customers in 10 California counties. Service areas include the metropolitan areas of Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The company also provides electricity to 24,420 customers in Big Bear Lake and San Bernardino Cnty. Provides

841. BlackRock, Inc. owns 15.9% of out. shares; Vanguard, 11.9%; off. & dir. 1.0%. (4/20 Proxy). Chairman: Lloyd Ross. Pres. & CEO: Robert Sprowls, Inc. CA. Address: 630 East Foothill Blvd., San Dimas, CA 91773. Tel: 909-394-3600. Internet: www.aswater.com.

132.5 American States Water should only be Past Est'd '17-'19 marginally impacted by the coronato '23-'25 and the recent economic 5.0% 7.0% downturn. The company's main operation supplies 10 counties in California with water. Although recessions usually result in consumers scaling back on most purchases, the demand for water remains Full mostly unchanged because it is such an es-440.6 sential commodity.

Our earnings estimates for this year and next remain basically unchanged. In 2020, we think that American States' share net will be flattish. However, this is better than it appears because 2019 was a such a banner year. The implementation of higher rates and a continued solid showing from the nonregulated operations (more below) may result in share earnings reaching \$2.30. With the help of ongoing cost-control measures, we expect a 7% gain in share net to \$2.45, in 2021. It should be noted that utilities file rate cases every three years in the state. A new filing will be required for the years 2022 to 2024. Typically, the first year of a rate increase does not go into effect immediately. So, earnings will probably be soft in 2022.

The ASUS business will likely continue to be a force behind the company's growth. This operation provides water services to military bases around the country. More facilities are expected to privatized in the years ahead. ASUS has been successful in winning a number of these 50-year contracts in the past, and we expect this trend to continue. Profits from this segment ought to account for at least 30% of American States' income, and this percentage could go higher, depending upon the amount of new contracts obtained. Also, since this segment is not overseen by regulators, the return on investment here are higher.

Shares of American States Water are expected to outpace the broader market averages in the year ahead. On the positive side, the company has a strong balance sheet, well-defined earnings, and above-average dividend growth prospects. Conversely, investors are currently paying a high premium for these attributes, as reflected in the stock's elevated P/E ratio. Consequently, long-term total return potential is very unattractive.

July 10, 2020

2017 .242 .242 .255 .255 2018 .255 .255 .275 .275 1.06 .275 .275 2019 .305 .305 1.16 2020 .305 .305 (A) Primary earnings. Excludes nonrecurring gains/(losses): '04, 7¢; '05, 13¢; '06, 3¢; '08, (14¢); '10, (23¢); '11, 10¢. Next earnings report

131.5

59 5

46.8 146.6

Past

10 Yrs.

113.2

106.9

124.7

120.9

125

.62

.44

.72

.67

.224

3.0% 6.0%

9.5% 8.0%

QUARTERLY REVENUES (\$ mill.)

Mar.31 Jun. 30 Sep. 30 Dec. 31

EARNINGS PER SHARE A

Mar.31 Jun. 30 Sep. 30 Dec. 31

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B

Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31

124.4

124.2

134.5

140

145

.62

.76

.74

.224

Current Assets

Accts Pavable

Debt Due

Current Liab

Revenues "Cash Flow"

Dividends

Cal-

endar

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

Cal-

endar

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

Cal-

endar

2016

Book Value

98.8

94.7

101.7

109.1

110

.29

.35

.38

.43

.224

ANNUAL RATES

of change (per sh)

Other

122.5

55.6

5.3 55.1

116.0

5 Yrs.

3.0%

5.0% 7.5%

4.0%

104.2

113.0

115

120

.35

.37

.45

.51

.55

.242

127.4

43.5 32.3 56.7

5 5%

436.8

473.

485

500

Full

Year

1.88

1.72

2.28

2.30

Full

.91

(B) Dividends historically paid in early March, June, September, and December. ■ Div'd rein- | (C) In millions, adjusted for split. | (D) Includes intangibles. As of 12/31/19; \$1.1 vestment plan available.

James A. Flood

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 85